

But more important than emotional fondness was the way in which the words of the Psalms get into one's heart...with meaning and fervency. I cannot go into much greater detail because we have a lot of things to do in this hour but the words of Psalm 19 from the old Bible Songs Book have been an influence for blessing and a challenge in guidance throughout my entire spiritual pathway. The chorus expresses it pretty well:

I pray that my words and my thoughts
 May all with thy precepts accord,
 And every be pleasing to thee,
 My Rock, my Redeemer, my Lord.

So in my life the singing of the Psalms has had a special place and I have rejoiced in the "living" concept of the Word of God in the heart, on the tongue, and through the voice.

C. Progress in this Study

We will move quickly on these lines:

1. Some brief notes on the history of church music in general (about 15 minutes worth)
2. The Development of the Psalter (much more time)
3. The Declension and resurrection of Psalm singing.

II. Brief Notes on the History of Church Singing (just a few minutes and a couple of stories!)

A. Minimal Bibliography (on this phase of our study)

Patrick, Millar: THE STORY OF THE CHURCH'S SONG. Edinburgh: Church of Scotland Publishing Committee, 1927. This work was revised for American readership by James Rawlings Sydnor and published at Richmond by the John Knox Press, 1962.

Routley, Erik. THE MUSIC OF CHRISTIAN HYMNODY. London: The Independent Press, 1957.

" HYMNS AND THE HUMAN LIFE, New York: The Philosophical Library, 1952.

Burzin, W. E., T.M. McCorkle, D.M., and Ralston, H. (compilers)
 A BIBLIOGRAPHY ON MUSIC AND THE CHURCH. New York: National Council of Churches, 1962. (sorry this one is out of place in the bibliography of this section...I just overlooked it and I am working with a typewriter, not a computer---so I just stuck it in at the end.)

B. The New Testament Community

1. Music instruction: The following passages tell us something about the role and service of singing in the New Testament age. I will not comment on them at length. Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16, James 5:13. And this instruction is set against the exemplary background of Mark 14:26.